In regard to a women and children's hospital at Alwaye, Government have before them a proposal to post a woman medical officer at Parur. Whether it would be possible to post a similar woman doctor at Alwaye also, I shall ask the Board to consider.

130. Needs of Parur.

MR. R. VENKATESWARA IYER (*Member, Municipal Council, Parur*) spoke on the need for strengthening the banks of the Kalathodu with masonry work. The expenditure on this account would not exceed five or six thousand rupees. The canal ran through the heart of the Parur town and through thickly populated places. But for the poverty of the Municipal Council, the canal would not have been in its present condition of complete disrepair. It was now full of stagnating pools of water which served as breeding places of mosquitoes. The idea of the municipality and of the public was not to deepen this canal or to make it navigable. They only wanted to keep it as a good drain. This was obviously a work for the municipal council. Government themselves had once pointed out in a letter to the municipality that it was a work for them to undertake. But if the council could not find money for executing it, they had naturally to fall back upon aid from Government. The municipality had only an annual balance of Rs. 1000. This was quite insufficient for them to take up the present work. The work was also one which could not be done piece-meal. Government should therefore do the work for the municipality. If they could not bear the whole cost, they should meet one-half of it and contribute the other half as a loan to the municipality.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Venkiteswara Aiyar, as the Government letter which you quoted states, it is purely for the Municipality and the thodu will not have fallen into its present condition of decay if the Municipality had in past years devoted a certain amount of attention and money to its proper maintenance. You talk of your annual surplus as only Rs. 1,000 and I am perfectly sure that you have no case to expect Government help in this matter. The utmost I am prepared to consider is the question of lending money at suitable interest to the Parur Municipality for its work if it is assured that its financial position is such that there will not be any risk of loss in respect of this money.

131. Urgent Needs of Central Travancore.

MR. DEVARU VASUDEVARU (*Member, Jenmies, Quilon Division*) spoke on the following needs of Central Travancore:—

The Chengannur—Mannar road should be improved and the necessary culverts constructed. Government opened this road some forty years ago. Since then it had fallen into complete disrepair. It was a very useful road both for the purpose of daily traffic and for the purpose of about 20,000 paras of paddy fields which could be protected from the floods of the Pampa by the improvement of this road.

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